

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Call to Order: By Vice Chairman Janna Taylor, on February 26, 2007 at 8:02 A.M., in Room 102 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. John Sinrud, Chairman (R)
Rep. Eve Franklin, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Janna Taylor, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Bill Beck (R)
Rep. Tim Callahan (D)
Rep. Edith Clark (R)
Rep. Bill E. Glaser (R)
Rep. Ray Hawk (R)
Rep. Cynthia Hiner (D)
Rep. Galen Hollenbaugh (D)
Rep. Joey Jayne (D)
Rep. Dave Kasten (R)
Rep. Bill McChesney (D)
Rep. Penny Morgan (R)
Rep. John L. Musgrove (D)
Rep. Rick Ripley (R)
Rep. Jon C. Sesso (D)
Rep. Jack Wells (R)
Rep. Craig Witte (R)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Linda Keim, Committee Secretary
Jon Moe, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 60, HB 33, HB 39, HB 49, HB 663
2/22/2007
Executive Action: None

HEARING ON HB 60

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:26 Rep. John Parker (D), HD 23, opened the hearing on HB 60, Access to civil justice act, self-help law program.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:17 Beth Baker, Helena, lawyer

EXHIBIT(aph43a01)

00:07:41 Judge McCarter, on behalf of Montana District Judges

00:08:08 Michele Snowberger, Belgrade City Judge; Commission on Self Representing Litigants

00:09:29 David Ortley, Justice of Peace, Flathead County, Kalispell

EXHIBIT(aph43a02)

00:11:54 Terra Veazey, Attorney, Montana Legal Services, Helena

EXHIBIT(aph43a03)

00:15:32 Sen. Dan McGee

00:16:23 Cathy Day, American Civil Liberties Union, Montana

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:16:59 Rep. Morgan

00:17:28 Rep. Parker

00:18:53 Rep. Jayne

00:20:25 Rep. Parker

00:20:51 Ms. Baker

00:22:27 Rep. Witte

00:23:41 Rep. Parker

00:24:24 Rep. Beck

00:24:34 Rep. Parker

00:24:45 Ms. Veazey

00:25:37 Rep. Hollenbaugh

00:25:58 Ms. Veazey

00:27:40 Rep. Witte

00:28:13 Rep. Taylor

00:28:27 Rep. Parker

Closing by Sponsor:

00:28:49 Rep. Parker

HEARING ON HB 33

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:29:54 Rep. Walter McNutt (R), HD 37, opened the hearing on HB 33. Revise 9-1-1 emergency phone system laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:30:58 Jeff Brandt, Deputy Chief Information Officer,
Information Technology Services Division, Department of
Administration

EXHIBIT (aph43a04)

00:34:26 Sheryl Wood, Associate Director, Montana Association of
Counties (MACo)

00:34:45 Michael Strand, CEO and General Counsel, Montana Rural
Cooperatives

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:35:59 Rep. Morgan

00:37:00 Mr. Brandt

00:37:37 Rep. Jayne

00:38:02 Rep. McNutt

Closing by Sponsor:

00:39:34 Rep. McNutt

HEARING ON HB 39

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:40:00 Rep. Walter McNutt (R), HD 37, opened the hearing on HB 39, Ownership update for water rights.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:41:36 John Tubbs, Department of Natural Resources and
Conservation, DNRC

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:42:37 Rep. McNutt

HEARING ON HB 49

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:43:06 Rep. Robin Hamilton (D), HD 92, opened the hearing on HB 49, Require study of local government special purpose districts.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:43:56 Harold Blattie, MACo

EXHIBIT(aph43a05)

00:48:16 Sheryl Wood, Associate Director, MACo

00:48:33 Paul Christofferson, Department of Administration

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:48:52 Rep. Hamilton

00:49:25 Rep. Sinrud assumed the chair

HEARING ON HB 663

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:50:00 Rep. Dan Villa (D), HD 86, opened the hearing on HB 663, County courthouse restoration act.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:49:58 Sheryl Wood, Associate Director, MACo

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:51:05 Rep. Kasten
00:51:11 Rep. Villa
00:51:43 Rep. Morgan
00:51:47 Rep. Kasten
00:52:04 Rep. Taylor

Closing by Sponsor:

00:52:34 Rep. Villa

Further Business:

00:54:00 Rep. Sinrud announced 2PM Executive Action on HB 663.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 8:55 A.M.

REP. JOHN SINRUD, Chairman

LINDA KEIM, Secretary

JS/lk

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([aph43aad.pdf](#))